

HOUSE BILL 2437

By Moore

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 5;  
Title 6; Title 7; Title 64; Title 65 and Title 68,  
relative to certain utility fees.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 7, Chapter 51, is amended by adding the following language as a new part 17:

Section 7-51-1701.

As used in this part:

(1) "Cooperative" means any cooperative providing utility services, including, but not limited to, electric or telephone services, or both;

(2) "Late fee" includes any fee designated as a late fee, an amount designated as "gross amount" as opposed to "net amount", or an amount which is greater if paid after a specific due date than it would be if paid on or before the due date indicated, or any other similar charge; and

(3) "Utility" means any person, municipality, county, metropolitan government, cooperative, board, commission, district, or any entity created or authorized by public act, private act or general law to provide electricity, natural gas, water, waste water services, telephone service or any combination thereof, for sale to consumers in any particular service area.

Section 7-51-1702.

Any late fee charged by a utility shall not exceed ten percent (10%) of the net amount or the amount due and owing if paid on or before a specific due date indicated on the bill sent by the utility to the customer.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.